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DECODABLE • 55

Curls that Swirl

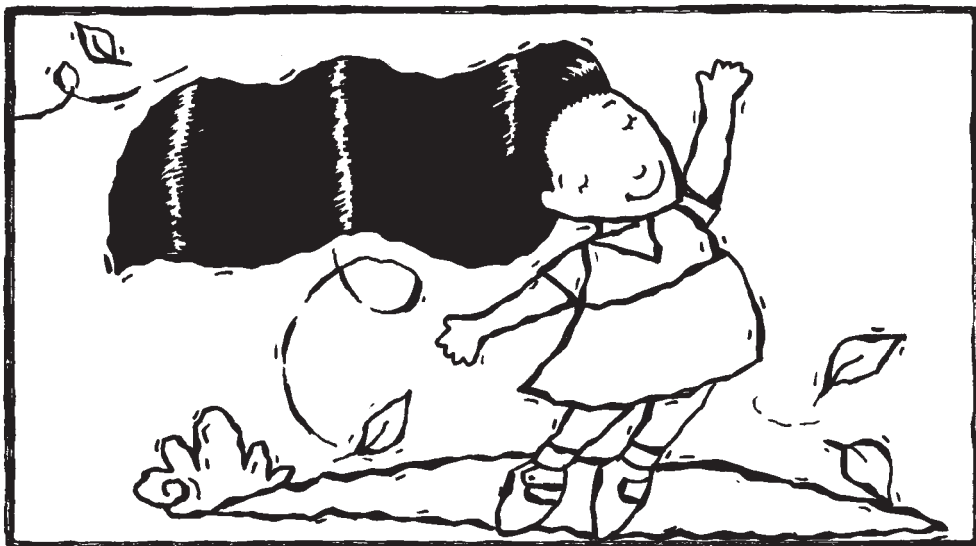


Written by Cheryl Ryan • Illustrated by Catalina Rankin

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A Reading A-Z Decodable Book • Word Count: 298



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ELEMENTS USED IN THIS BOOK	
New phonic elements	r-controlled e, u, i
Reviewed phonic elements	r-controlled vowels
Story word	purple
New high-frequency words	full, once, pull
Special considerations	inflectional endings -ed, -s, -ing, -y, -ly; two-syllable decodable words (annoys, fairly, freely, instead)

Curls that Swirl
Decodable Book 55
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Once there was a small girl who had
hair that curled and swirled and twirled.
It swirled over her shirt and way past
her skirt.

3

Her hair was as thick as fur.
The birds liked to use it to make a nest.
They pulled hard on her hair.
They pulled out curl after curl until
her head hurt.
Her head got really sore.

4





"The nerve of those birds to pull out
your nice curls," said her mom.
"How dare they pull your curls.
They need to learn they cannot treat
your curls like that."

5

At first, the girl liked having hair that
curled and swirled.
She liked how it whirled and twirled
in the air when she turned and
swerved.

6





But her hair was so long that it
dragged in the dirt.

"Such dirty old hair really annoys me,"
she said quite sternly.
"It is all full of germs."

7

The girl was tired of hair that
twirled and swirled and curled.
"I hate my hair," she said with a frown.
"I have had it since birth.
I feel like a jerk, and I yearn for
a new look."

8





"I will cut my hair," she said with
a smirk.
"I will cut it and hurl it away.
No more whirling and twirling for me."

9

Then out of the stars came a
sweet fairy.
"I urge you not to cut your
swirling curls," the fairy said.
"Instead, let me turn your curls
into silk."

10





So the fairy stirred and whirred.
Then she took some fairy dust from
her purse.
She let it fall over the girl's curls.

11

Soon the girl with curls that swirled
had a head draped with purple silk.
Her hair flowed freely in the wind.
She was so happy that she purred
like a cat.

12

